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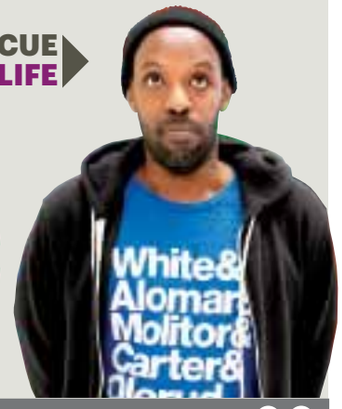

Bug battle begins

It may not feel like it, especially with today's rain, but thanks to warmer weather, the city is about two weeks ahead of schedule in the yearly mosquito smack-down — and there's some good news. Story, Winnipeg News. UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA/HANDOUT

Woman faces lunch money theft charge

POLICE

Thousands missing from school fund

Shane Gibson
Metro | Winnipeg

The treasurer of a Winnipeg elementary school lunch program has been arrested for allegedly funnelling more than $24,000 from the children's program in less than a year.

The 39-year-old woman was arrested Thursday after members of the program committee noticed something was fishy about the allocation of lunch program funds last October and started their own investigation.

Officials from the River East Transcona School Division confirmed Friday the woman worked for a volunteer board at Joseph Teres School.

When their own internal investigation showed the accused had been depositing funds from the account into her own personal bank account, the committee went to police.

Police say the woman stole the lunch money between December 2013 and October 2014.

Police spokesperson Const. Jason Michalyshen said the stolen funds had been paid into the program by parents whose kids used it. He said much of it hasn't been recovered.

The woman, who was not named by police or the school division, is charged with theft over $5,000 and fraud over $5,000. She has been released on a promise to appear in court and the division said she no longer volunteers with the program.

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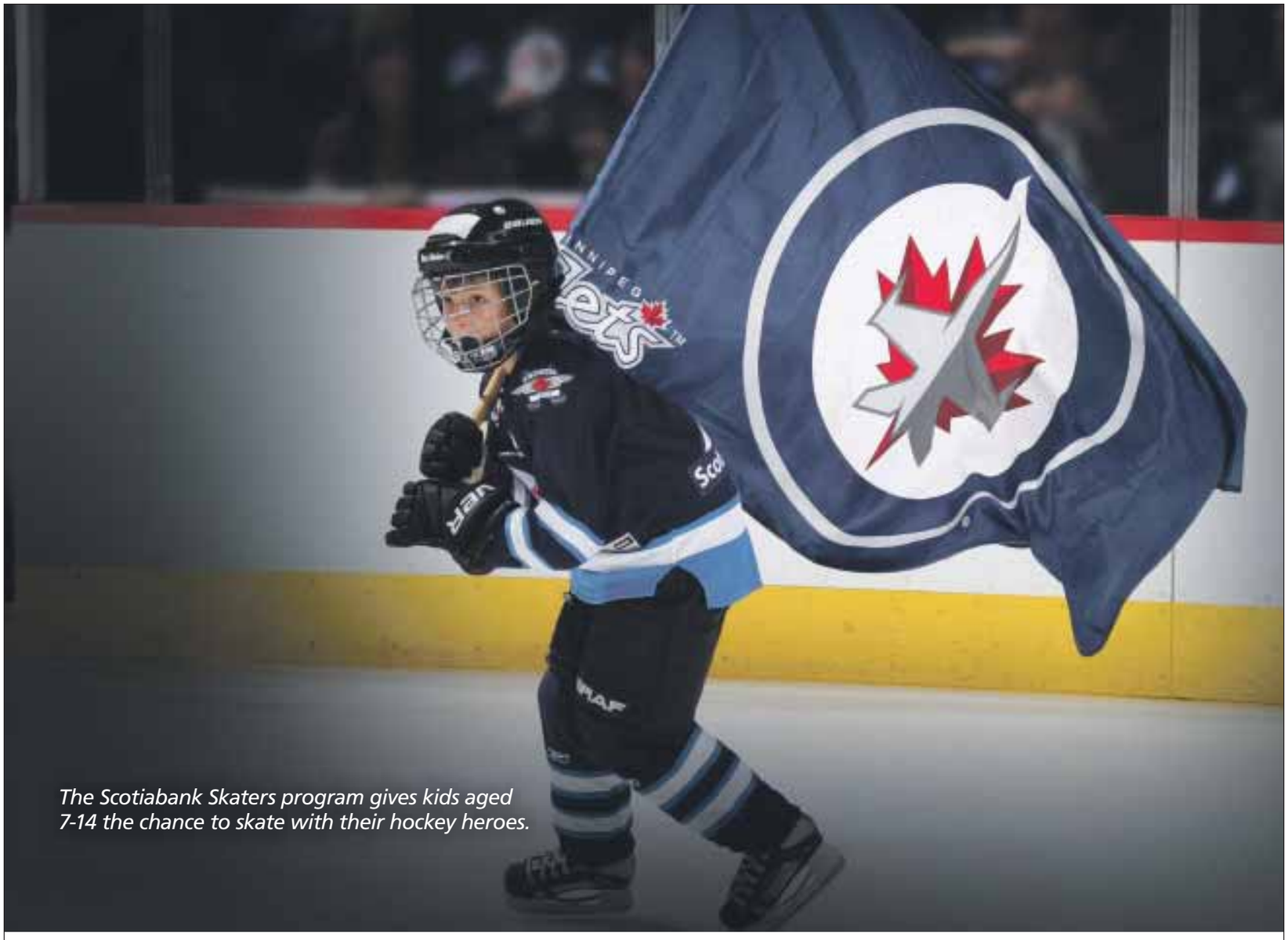

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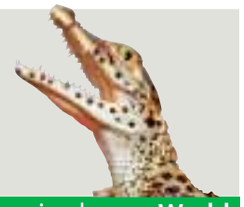

Baby Cuban crocodiles coming home. World

Thousands in equipment stolen at Manitoba studio

FORT GARRY

Handmade guitars the most precious missing pieces

Eva Wasney
Metro | Winnipeg

Will and Andrew Grierson were shocked to discover thousands of dollars of equipment stolen from their home recording studio.
EVA WASNEY/METRO

Last week, Will Grierson thought the wind had knocked open the door of his house, but it didn't take him long to realize someone had kicked it in.

Grierson panicked when he realized his basement recording studio had been ransacked and thousands of dollars' worth of equipment stolen.

The most precious pieces were six or seven guitars that his father had made by hand — one of which could be worth close to $10,000.

"It's a weird violation," said Grierson. "They could've hurt us in the pocket worse, but it stings more because of the sentimental value of the things that are gone."

He called police and put a message out on Facebook asking friends to keep an eye out for any of the unique guitars at local pawn shops.

"Pretty much every instrument was custom in some way and recognizable, which gives me a little bit of hope," said Grierson.

He lives in the Fort Garry home with his brother and runs an independent recording studio out of the basement called Collector Studio.

Grierson and his business partner Arthur Anthony have produced albums for local bands like the Thrashers, Animal Teeth and French Press.

Luckily, nothing taken affected any current projects. "If I had lost the hard drives with current records on them, that would've been a disaster," said Grierson.

Last July, Grierson's garage was broken into and his brother Andrew caught someone breaking into their neighbour's garage in the same month.

> **"It stings more because of the sentimental value.**
> Will Grierson

Between January and April last year there were 21 residential break and enters in River Heights-Fort Garry, compared to 22 this year, according to Winnipeg Police Service CrimeStat data.

IN BRIEF

Police hunting for suspect in Notre Dame sex assault

Police are searching for a man after a sexual assault on Friday.

Police said a 20-year-old woman was walking in the area of Notre Dame Avenue and Isabel Street at about 6:30 p.m. when an unknown man walked past her. He made a comment, then grabbed the woman's arm and purse.

When she tried to break free, he became more aggressive, said police, and then a serious sexual assault occurred. A passing motorist began yelling out, and the man fled.

Police are looking for an East Indian man, mid-30s, six feet tall with a large build and full beard. He was wearing a white baseball cap, a torn T-shirt and white cargo shorts. METRO

Man allegedly exposes himself to mom, toddler

Police are looking for a man who exposed himself in front of a mom and her toddler-aged daughter in the Robertson neighbourhood Thursday.

Police say the 26-year-old mother was walking with her daughter near Dalton Street and Church Avenue around 11:50 a.m. when they saw a masked man between houses exposing himself. After being noticed, the man left the area.

The suspect is fair-complexioned, in his late 20s or early 30s, very tall with a medium build and dark hair. He was wearing a green jacket and jeans. METRO

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2015 NHL playoffs: Twitter proves that all Jets fans are not in this together

WHAT'S GOOD

Ace Burpee

I was at the final playoff game of the Jets 1.0. Nineteen years later, I'm still here.

The biggest difference between Jets playoff hockey in 1996 and in 2015? Twitter. It's hard to tell if we're all in this together or are instead never again going to be on speaking terms with anyone.

Here's what I have learned: every thought you type about the playoffs will be declared the dumbest take in the history of the world. There's no middle ground.

Blame the refs, and you will be called an idiot. Say it was not the refs that cost us the game, but instead the fault lies with (insert name of random Jet here), and you will again be called an idiot.

Declaring a player is invisible and needs to step up will usually result in you being told you have called out the wrong player — and, in fact, it is a different player who is the invisible one, and you are a clown for thinking otherwise.

Bury or support a goaltender? You're asking to be destroyed, and fast.

And then there is ... wait ... what am I talking about? Nothing has changed. At all. This is life in a northern hockey-crazed town. It's always been like this.... It's just on Twitter instead of around the water cooler the next day or at the bar later that night.

As you were.

Ace Burpee is a writer, radio show host, producer and supporter of all things good.

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Ken Nowalsky, superintendent of the city's insect-control department, stands in front of one of the rented helicopters used to spray for mosquitoes. EVA WASNEY/FOR METRO

Pest control starts early

MOSQUITOES

City using 100 per cent eco-friendly larvicide

Eva Wasney
For Metro | Winnipeg

The battle against Winnipeg's favourite insect never ends, but this year the city's mosquito-control efforts are beginning a little earlier thanks to warmer weather.

"We're a little over two weeks earlier than normal," said Ken Nowalsky, superintendent of the city's insect-control branch.

"When we had that burst of hot weather, that was enough to trigger them to start hatching," said Nowalsky.

Mosquito larvae were found in traps on April 11, and the city started applying larvicide to breeding sites around the city on April 16.

Thanks to a $2.69-million allocation from city council, the insect-control department is using a 100 per cent biological larvicide this year.

The environmentally friendly pesticide only works on larval skeeters and is only effective in water for 30 to 48 hours, meaning insect-control teams need to be conscious of how fast the bugs are growing, said Nowalsky.

But he isn't concerned about the method's effectiveness.

"We've used biologicals since 1982, just in a smaller proportion," he said. "It's just a balancing act when you use (them)."

This summer might be the last time the city uses the controversial chemical malathion, since the pesticide is no longer being manufactured.

"We currently have about 4,800 litres, which would be enough for one normal season of adult mosquito control," said Nowalsky.

Trying to find a new pesticide could take two to three years, according to Nowalsky. But if the trap counts remain low and the weather stays relatively dry, the city might not need to fog with malathion this year, he added.

> **"We're a little over two weeks earlier than normal. When we had that burst of hot weather, that was enough to trigger them to start hatching.** Ken Nowalsky

HOMICIDE

Man fatally stabbed on Selkirk Avenue

A 27-year-old man is dead after he was stabbed several times on Friday night, leaving him bleeding on the sidewalk in front of a townhouse on Selkirk Avenue.

Winnipeg police said officers passing in a patrol car found the man just before 10:50 p.m. on Friday night, lying in front of a housing complex at 740 Selkirk Ave.

Spokesman Const. Jason Michaelyshen said police tried to help the man.

"Officers came into contact with the male," he said Saturday morning. "Our members did administer first aid, and when paramedics arrived, they took over and carried on from there."

Despite the attempts to save him, he was pronounced dead at the scene.

While police did not name the man, friends and family identified him on social media as Godfrey Hayden.

A witness near the scene Saturday, who did not want to be identified, said the man was stabbed in the back alley in the 700 block of Selkirk Avenue by two other male assailants. The victim managed to make it to the front street before collapsing.

Police have not confirmed any details, including media reports that Hayden was stabbed with his own knife over a drug deal gone wrong.

5th

Hayden's death is the city's fifth homicide of 2015.

Police said an autopsy is underway to confirm the cause of death and that interviews are also being conducted. Anyone with information is asked to call the homicide unit at 204-986-6508.

There were two other stabbings over the weekend, including one in the North End that left two in hospital and two men in custody.

Another happened Sunday on Bronx Avenue: A man was stabbed in the neck over a family dispute. He is in stable condition, while three people have been arrested.

ELISHA DACEY/METRO

Const. Jason Michaelyshen says anyone with information should call the police homicide unit. SHANE GIBSON/METRO

Gordon Giesbrecht, a.k.a. Professor Popsicle, thinks his frosty skill set will help him win the nomination. CONTRIBUTED/WJB PHOTOGRAPHY

Professor Popsicle plunges into politics

WINNIPEG SOUTH

Academic saw TV fame over research into extreme cold

Eva Wasney
For Metro | Winnipeg

Gordon Giesbrecht, otherwise known as Professor Popsicle, says he is seeking the Tory nomination in Winnipeg South.

Giesbrecht, a professor of thermophysiology at the University of Manitoba, is up against businessman Jarret Hannah after long-time Tory MP Rod Bruinooge announced he won't run again.

"There hasn't been an opening for 10 years," said Giesbrecht. "The timing is right, and we have an opportunity here, and I'd like to see how I can serve my community."

The opening of the U of M's new Active Living Centre marks the end of his three-year term as associate dean of kinesiology.

Giesbrecht was dubbed Professor Popsicle in a feature article in Outdoor Magazine for his research about the human body's reaction to extreme cold. He has appeared on the Late Show with David Letterman, The Nature of Things with David Suzuki and the Rick Mercer Report.

> **"(I'm) willing to put up with a little pain or discomfort in order to accomplish something.**
> Gordon Giesbrecht

He's thrown himself into frozen lakes 40 times for the sake of research and has helped develop a cold-water survival boot camp for the military and the public.

"Not being afraid to take on a challenge, being willing to put up with a little pain or discomfort in order to accomplish something," said Giesbrecht. "I think those are the kinds of traits voters in the constituency would value in a representative in Ottawa."

The Conservatives are looking to replace incumbents in two other ridings this year after Kildonan–St. Paul MP Joy Smith announced her retirement and St. Boniface MP Shelly Glover said she wouldn't run again.

Learning to eat on the cheap

LIVING BELOW THE LINE

Follow Metro's Gilbert Ngabo as he attempts to live on just $1.75 a day for one week

Gilbert Ngabo
Metro | Toronto

Elia Herrera says she has seen people live on much, much less than $1.75 a day, the amount that conventionally defines the poverty line.

"I come from Mexico and I have known people who live on almost nothing because they have no choice," said Herrera, executive chef at Los Colibris restaurant in downtown Toronto.

She is one of dozens of chefs around the country who are partnering with Live Below the Line, an initiative that is challenging Canadians to experience life on $1.75 a day for a week. It's a campaign to raise awareness of global poverty and raise funds for charities that work to alleviate it.

As willing Canadians take on the challenge — which officially kicks off April 27, although many have started earlier — Herrera and other chefs have come up with menus that can accommodate that tiny budget.

"It's amazing how much you can actually save when you live on cheap ingredients," said Herrera, who moved to Canada 11 years ago.

The menu she developed includes breakfast, lunch and dinner. For just 52 cents, you can get a "Quesadilla De Hongos" or mushroom quesadilla. Ingredients include tortillas, half a cup of shredded mozzarella, half a cup of sliced button mushrooms, four cloves of garlic and pico de gallo. Or pay 59 cents and get an "Enfrijoladas," a black-bean puree with some scrambled eggs, tortillas and half a cup of Cotija cheese. Her menu also includes instructions on how to make the food on your own.

"The important thing here is to be able to help people who are less fortunate," said Herrera. "We are very lucky that we can always eat. The minimum we can do is to always give back to the world."

I'm going grocery shopping. Let's do this.

LIZ BEDDALL/METRO

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EXPENSE SCANDAL

Over 74 Tory MPs counted on Duffy

It seems everyone wanted a piece of Sen. Mike Duffy.

At least 74 former and current Conservative members of Parliament leaned on Duffy at one point or another to appear at their events, record messages for supporters or stump for them on the campaign trail, documents released at the suspended senator's trial indicate.

Duffy also did work for Ontario, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island Tories and several unsuccessful federal Conservative candidates. The former broadcaster's daily diaries for 2009-2012, now a courtroom exhibit, illustrate the full extent of Duffy's celebrity status when he was still in the party's good graces.

Duffy is facing 31 charges of fraud, breach-of-trust and bribery. Eighteen of those charges deal with travel expenses claimed by Duffy, some of which involved travel to partisan events.

His defence has made the case that such partisan activities are an integral part of a senator's parliamentary functions, as stated in the Senate's administrative rules. Lawyer Donald Bayne has also emphasized how much the party leadership bought in to what he was doing.

"To Duff, a great journalist and a great senator," reads one photo entered into evidence, inscribed by none other than Prime Minister Stephen Harper, that shows the two of them together at an event. During one stretch in the summer of 2009, Duffy went to 10 political events in 18 days in two provinces and one territory.

The amount of time Duffy spent travelling and working for his colleagues and the party brass might explain the lengths that the Prime Minister's Office initially went to in order to shield his living-expense claims from scrutiny. THE CANADIAN PRESS

DUFFY'S DUTIES

Some of the duties that Duffy performed:

- Participating in "tele-town hall" calls, in which MPs speak to large numbers of constituents at once
- Visits to Conservative riding association meetings and events
- Shooting videos and messages for the Conservative party
- Appearing in photographs

IN BRIEF

New B.C. law aims to put an end to service-dog fraud

Dogs have long been recognized as man's best friend, but a new law set to take effect in British Columbia later this year is hoping to ferret out the fraudsters in their midst.

The province's newly revised Guide Dog and Service Dog Act is widely thought to be among the first in Canada to tackle the subject of service-animal impersonation, an issue that experts say has escalated sharply in recent years.

While there are no available numbers documenting the problem, service-dog trainers and owners alike say their circles are increasingly abuzz with anecdotes of people putting official-looking paraphernalia on pet dogs in the hopes that they could then enjoy the same broad access rights as certified service animals. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Commuters walk to their trains at Toronto's Union Station, the heart of VIA Rail travel, in 2013. An agreement between Canada and the U.S. could see armed U.S. border guards at Union Station. IAN WILLMS/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Armed U.S. guards may be stationed in Canada

SECURITY

Deal would give immunity to Canadian prosecution

Armed U.S. border guards could soon be posted to Toronto's Union Station and elsewhere — and if they ever use their guns, they may not be held accountable in a Canadian court.

A border preclearance agreement signed last month by Public Safety Minister Steven Blaney and U.S. Secretary of Homeland Security Jeh Johnson allows armed American border guards to be posted to any port, ferry terminal, land crossing or rail station to clear goods and passengers through customs and immigration before they cross the border.

While U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) officers now preclear passengers at eight Canadian airports, only police may carry firearms in airports, so border agents stationed there aren't armed.

The deal is promoted as a measure to facilitate trade and benefit the economy on both sides of the border, but critics are concerned about a clause granting U.S. agents immunity from Canadian prosecution.

"If U.S. government agents who are on duty on Canadian soil are only going to be liable to be prosecuted in the United States for potential criminal acts in Canada, what does that mean for access to justice for people affected by those actions?" asked Josh Paterson, executive director of the B.C. Civil Liberties Association.

"Is a Canadian really going to be able to access whatever system of redress that might exist in the United States for actions that take place here in Canada?"

Details of the agreement, not yet public, are limited. The number of U.S. guards coming to Canada and where they will be posted will be determined by "the market" and subject to approval by both countries, said Public Safety Canada's spokesperson Josée Sirois.

"U.S. CBP preclearance officers would be authorized to carry the same weapons and restraint devices that (Canadian) border officers are permitted to carry in the same operating environment," Sirois wrote in an email. "That means that they would be able to carry a sidearm in land, rail and marine preclearance operations, but not when pre-clearing air travel passengers."

U.S. guards would not be permitted to make arrests, she said, but could detain suspects and call local police.

Legal scholars worry about the ramifications of the agreement, though none of those contacted by Torstar News Service would offer an opinion without seeing more details of the deal. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

AGREEMENT

The deal won't come into effect until both countries ratify it, which Canada aims to complete next year.

Video shows ISIL killing Ethiopian Christians

LIBYA

Victims likely migrants hoping to reach Europe

ISIL militants in Libya shot and beheaded groups of captive Ethiopian Christians, a video purportedly from the extremists showed Sunday. The attack widens the circle of nations affected by the group's atrocities while showing its growth beyond a self-declared caliphate in Syria and Iraq.

The release of the 29-minute video comes a day after Afghanistan's president blamed the extremists for a suicide attack in his country that killed at least 35 people — and underscores the chaos gripping Libya after its 2011 civil war and the killing of dictator Moammar Gadhafi.

It also mirrored a film released in February showing militants beheading 21 captured Egyptian Christians on a Libyan beach, which immediately drew Egyptian airstrikes on the group's suspected positions in Libya. Whether Ethiopia would — or could — respond with similar military force remains unclear.

Ethiopia long has drawn the anger of Islamic extremists over its military's attacks on neighbouring Somalia, whose population is almost entirely Muslim. While the militant in the video at one point said "Muslim blood that was shed under the hands of your religion is not cheap," it did not specifically mention the Ethiopian government's actions.

The video, released via militant social media accounts and websites, could not be independently verified by The Associated Press. However, it corresponded to other videos released by ISIL and bore the symbol of its al-Furqan media arm.

The video starts with what it called a history of Christian-Muslim relations, followed by scenes of militants destroying churches, graves and icons. A masked fighter brandishing a pistol delivers a long statement, saying Christians must convert to Islam or pay a special tax prescribed by the Qur'an.

It shows one group of captives, identified as Ethiopian Christians, purportedly held by an ISIL affiliate in eastern Libya known as Barqa Province. It also shows another purportedly held by an affiliate in the south calling itself the Fazzan Province. The video then switches between footage of the captives in the south being shot dead and the captives in the east being beheaded on a beach. It was not immediately possible to estimate how many captives were killed or confirm their identities.

In Ethiopia, government spokesman Redwan Hussein said officials were in contact with its embassy in Cairo to verify the video's authenticity. Hussein said he believed those killed likely were Ethiopian migrants hoping to reach Europe. Libya has become a hub for migrants across Africa hoping to cross the Mediterranean to enter Europe for work and better lives.

"If this is confirmed, it will be a warning to people who wish to risk and travel to Europe though the dangerous route," Hussein said.

Abba Kaletsidk Mulugeta, an official with the Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahdo Church's Patriarchate Office, said he also believed the victims likely were migrants.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

This still from an undated 29-minute video released by ISIL militants Sunday shows captured Ethiopian Christians in eastern Libya being taken to a beach before being beheaded. The same video shows another group of captives being shot by ISIL militants in the south. A masked ISIL fighter delivers a long statement in the video. MILITANT VIDEO VIA THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

> **Our fellow citizens have just been killed on a faith-based violence that is totally unacceptable.**
> Abba Kaletsidk Mulugeta

MIGRATION CRISIS

Europe shocked as boat sinks off Libya

A smuggler's boat, crammed with hundreds of people, overturned off Libya's coast as rescuers approached, causing what could be the Mediterranean's deadliest known migrant tragedy and intensifying pressure on the European Union Sunday to finally meet demands for decisive action.

Italian prosecutors said a Bangladeshi survivor flown to Sicily for treatment told them 950 people were aboard, including hundreds who had been locked in the hold by smugglers. Earlier, authorities said a survivor told them 700 migrants were on board. It wasn't immediately clear if they were referring to the same survivor, and Premier Matteo Renzi said Italian authorities were "not in a position to confirm or verify" the death toll.

Eighteen ships joined the rescue effort, but only 28 survivors and 24 bodies were pulled from the water by nightfall, Renzi said.

These small numbers make more sense if hundreds of people were locked in the hold, because with so much weight down below, "surely the boat would have sunk," said Gen. Antonino Iraso, of the Italian Border Police, which has deployed boats in the operation.

Prosecutor Giovanni Salvi told The Associated Press by phone from the city of Catania that a survivor from Bangladesh described the situation on the fishing boat to prosecutors who interviewed him in a hospital. The man said about 300 people were in the hold when the fishing boat overturned, and that about 200 women and dozens of children also were on board.

Salvi stressed that there was no confirmation yet of the man's account and that the investigation was ongoing.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Swedes gift baby crocs to Cuba

NATURE

Endangered animals leave zoo for release into swamp

Cuba's efforts to sustain the critically endangered Cuban crocodile are getting a boost from Sweden, home to a pair of reptiles that Fidel Castro gave to a Soviet cosmonaut four decades ago.

A Stockholm zoo sent 10 of the couple's children to Cuba, where they will be placed in quarantine and eventually released into the Zapata Swamp, said Jonas Wahlstrom, the zookeeper who raised them.

"It's the dream of any zoo director to be part of releasing animals into the wild," said Wahlstrom, 62, clutching one of the stout-legged youngsters outside its enclosure at the Skansen aquarium and zoo in Stockholm. The 10 crocodiles are each about 1-1/2 years old and a metre long.

The Cuban crocodile, once found across the Caribbean, is restricted today to two swamps in Cuba, where it is threatened by interbreeding with American crocodiles, habitat loss and illegal hunting.

Wahlstrom said he received his original couple during a 1981 trip to Moscow. They had ended up in the Soviet capital after Castro gave them to cosmonaut Vladimir Shatalov in the 1970s as a token of friendship between the communist nations.

"He (Shatalov) brought them back to Moscow and he had them in his flat until his wife said: 'No more!'

And then he had to give them to the zoo in Moscow," Wahlstrom said.

But the zoo officials didn't have a good space for the aquatic reptiles, so they asked Wahlstrom if he could take them to Sweden.

"I had them as my hand luggage back from Moscow," Wahlstrom said.

Zoo officials in Moscow confirmed the background of the crocodiles and their handover to Wahlstrom.

Later named Hillary and Castro — in a nod to international politics — the two crocodiles have become a star attraction at Wahlstrom's zoo, where they have been breeding since 1984.

Wahlstrom said he's sent hatchlings to zoos worldwide, but this is the first time he's given any to Cuba for introduction into the wild.

Cuba's representative to Sweden welcomed the move.

"We need this type of crocodile," Cuban Ambassador Francisco Florentino said as he inspected the animals before their departure Sunday.

This would be the first time that Cuban crocodiles raised abroad are introduced into the wild in Cuba, according to Natalia Rossi of the Wildlife Conservation Society. She's been involved in other efforts to protect crocodiles in the Caribbean island nation but not the Swedish project.

However, the crocodiles first would be genetically screened to ensure that they come from a pure breed, Rossi said.

The Cuban crocodile can be distinguished from its American cousin by the way it walks and its characteristic bony ridge behind the eyes. But you can't distinguish hybrid crocodiles from pure-bred Cuban crocodiles by their appearance.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BACKGROUND

Rescuing Cuban Crocs

With only about 4,000 animals remaining in the wild, the Cuban crocodile, or Crocodylus rhombifer, is red-listed by the International Union for Conservation of Nature. The population is restricted to Cuba's Zapata Swamp and the Isle of Youth.

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Two adult Cuban crocs in their enclosure at the Skansen zoo in Stockholm. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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CALIFORNIA

Almonds take heat in drought

California almonds are becoming one of the world's favourite snacks and creating a multibillion-dollar bonanza for agricultural investors. But the crop extracts a staggering price from the land, consuming more water than all the showering, dish-washing and other indoor household water use of California's 39 million people.

As California enters its fourth year of drought and imposes the first mandatory statewide water cutbacks on cities and towns, the $6.5-billion almond crop is helping drive a sharp debate about water use, agricultural interests and how both affect the state's giant economy.

Almonds have claimed the spotlight as "the poster child of all things bad in water," almond grower Bob Weimer said.

People around the world are eating over 1,000 per cent more California almonds than they did just a decade ago, and last year almonds became the top export crop in the nation's top agriculture state. China's booming middle class is driving much of the demand.

That strong Asian market is producing up to 30 per cent returns for investors, prompting agri-businesses to expand almond planting in the state by two-thirds in the past decade. The crop has come to be dominated by global corporations and investment funds.

Rows of almond trees now cover nearly 400,000 hectares in California, many of them on previously virgin hillsides or in pastures or desert with little rain or local water. Since each tiny nut requires a gallon (3.8 litres) of water, almonds are consuming 1.07 trillion gallons (4.06 trillion litres) annually in the state, one-fifth more than California families use indoors.

So when Gov. Jerry Brown ordered cities and towns this month to cut their water consumption by 25 per cent but exempted farms, almonds got toasted in the public heat that followed.

"Drought villains?" the Los Angeles Times asked this month. A Sacramento TV station referred to "almond-shaming." National Public Radio called almond farms "a rogue's gallery" of water users.

Now almond farmers and investors are on the defensive.

"The tomato growers use a lot more water than we do. You should go after those guys," said Ryon Paton, a real-estate developer and principal of Trinitas Partners. He tells investors to think of his newly planted almond orchards as the classic Silicon Valley startup.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

California almond grower Bob Weimer. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MEXICO

Canadian miners weighing the risks

The recent armed robbery of $10.7 million US worth of gold from Canadian-owned McEwen Mining's El Gallo mine has cast a spotlight on the risks of operating in Mexico.

Last month, four employees from Canadian-based Goldcorp were kidnapped while heading home in a personal vehicle. Three were later found dead. And in February, four workers at Torex Gold Resources, also a Canadian company, were among 13 people kidnapped near the company's Morelos gold project. Both the Goldcorp and Torex kidnappings happened in Guerrero state — the same jurisdiction where 43 students disappeared last year and are now presumed dead.

Organized crime is thought to be behind most of these incidents. Alejandro Schtulmann at the Mexican risk analysis firm EMPRA says Mexico's large cartels are fracturing, leading to the creation of hundreds of smaller organizations that are fighting each other and extorting mining projects to get cash to meet their objectives.

"My concern is that we'll see more of what happened in Guerrero," he says. "That may escalate into more kidnappings, and higher level personnel or managers being kidnapped."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

> **My concern is that we'll see more of what happened in Guerrero.**
> Alejandro Schtulmann

NEW DELHI ANGRY FARMERS PROTEST NEW LAND RULES Tens of thousands of farmers rally in India's capital Sunday to protest the government's plan to ease rules for obtaining land for industry and development projects. Prime Minister Narendra Modi said existing rules, established in 2013 to protect land owners from land-grabbing and forced relocation, were creating obstacles that were spooking investors and should be simplified to attract foreign business and boost manufacturing in India. Modi passed an executive order in December, doing away with some of the rules. ALTAF QADRI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

FISHERIES

More shrimp being exported to U.S.

Maine fishmonger Glen Libby made a disheartening discovery on Easter Sunday brunch — the cold water shrimp on the menu at a restaurant up the street from his fish market were from Canada, not New England.

Canadian imports of the sweet, quarter-sized crustaceans are turning up more in American restaurants and seafood markets since a ban on fishing for Maine shrimp dried up local sources. The value of Canada's shrimp imports to the U.S. grew nearly 20 per cent, to more than $30.5 million, from 2013 to 2014, federal statistics say. Canadian imports of cold water shrimp to Maine alone more than doubled, to nearly 100 metric tons, in that time, Canadian authorities said.

The price to American consumers has also risen since the December 2013 shutdown.

Fishermen from coastal New England and eastern Canada fish for the pinkish cold water shrimp, which are popular for their tender meat.

The Canadian fishery for the shrimp is much larger — and according to Canadian authorities, more stable — than New England's. Canadian fishermen's catch of the shrimp averaged about 150,000 metric tons per year from 2009 to 2013. New England's catch averaged about 3,300 metric tons in that time.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Oil plunge dims hope of goodies in budget

FEDERAL BUDGET

Lobbyists told to put 'water in their wine' with requests

As last autumn's colours were setting in, veteran Ottawa lobbyist Dan Kelly was confident the spring would produce a federal budget surplus with ample room for announcements.

But following a long winter, the head of the Canadian Federation of Independent Business is approaching Tuesday's election-year budget with his hopes somewhat in check.

Only about six months ago, the Harper government's surplus kitty for budget day goodies in the 2015-16 fiscal plan was said to have swelled to $6.5 billion, Kelly said.

Cabinet ministers, who had waited years for a balanced budget, were salivating at the thought of being able to spend money for once. Now, they're waiting to see if there are any leftovers for their departments.

By October, everything started to change. First, the Conservatives unveiled their long-promised family tax-and-benefit package expected to carve $4.6 billion in revenue out of public coffers. Then, the weeks that followed brought the plunge in world oil prices, a crash Ottawa has predicted will indirectly chew billions of dollars from its bottom line.

Today, the surplus cupboard is bare and the Conservatives had to scramble to deliver on a long-held pledge critical to their re-election hopes: a balanced 2015-16 budget.

The finance minister has indicated the budget's $3-billion contingency reserve — designed as a cushion against unforeseeable events like natural disasters — could be in play.

Kelly, who had 20 or 30 budget-related meetings over the past year with officials, said the government's shift in tone was impossible to miss.

"With the oil-price decline you could feel it in meetings," he said of his exchanges with the government. "They've been pretty careful to try to make sure that every group that's out there with a budget request puts some water in their wine."

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Monday, April 20, 2015

#MYMETRO

Al Donato, 21, Ryerson University student in Toronto

What are you doing?
I'm catching up on news before heading into the misery that is academia — I have an exam in an hour.

What do you like best about Toronto?
Our multiculturalism.

What are you listening to right now?
Earned It by The Weeknd (who also happens to be from Toronto.)

Follow us on Instagram @metronewsca and show us your #MyMetro pose with a copy of our newspaper. We'll repost you and feature a reader pic from across Canada in this spot every Monday.

City's non-decision on prayer is disappointing

INSIDE THE PERIMETER

Shannon VanRaes

Deciding when to fake it is never easy.

Am I being too enthusiastic? Not enthusiastic enough? Or should I stand my ground and simply not participate? Will people think I'm being rude, or worse, disrespectful? Maybe I should just look a little confused and try mumbling?

Those are just a few of the questions running through my mind when a public meeting includes prayer. And I'm far from alone in my quandary.

Every day there are people in Canada forced to choose between marking themselves as different, or deviant, and participating in something contrary to their beliefs and values.

Finding yourself in this situation can be embarrassing and the simple act of abstaining from public worship has real and negative impacts on both personal and professional interactions, whatever the impetus.

Luckily, citizens of Saguenay, Que. will no longer have to face those awkward decisions, thanks to a ruling by Canada's Supreme Court last week. Following eight years of legal wrangling, the court found that by insisting on a Catholic recitation before public meetings, Mayor Jean Tremblay was violating both freedom of religion and freedom of conscience.

The court's ruling was unanimous, stressing that the state has a duty of neutrality. In the wake of the ruling some municipal councils have announced an end to the practice of praying at public meetings, but not Winnipeg. It's disappointing.

Even more disappointing is that while the city intends to look into the issue, it appears the mayor and council do not see it as a priority.

It should be.

At the moment, the attitude at Winnipeg's city hall seems to be that prayers aren't a problem because those used at meetings are nondenominational.

There is no such thing as secular prayer.

But while our civic officials seek to find balance among beliefs, they fail to recognize or appreciate that this particular issue is not about freedom of religion, but rather freedom from religion. There is no such thing as a secular prayer.

While religion has many roles and incarnations in Canadian society, politics shouldn't be one of them. The only way to ensure all citizens are welcome in a democracy is to separate church and state.

No one interested in zoning should have to worry about being forced to make a statement of belief as they decide whether or not to stand for council's opening prayer.

So if Mayor Brian Bowman is truly serious about having an inclusive and welcoming city hall, he needs to take the lead and make this a priority. The best part is that it won't cost a penny.

The City of Winnipeg may not put a lot of stock into my opinion. But let's hope they place some value on the Supreme Court's ruling and make the changes that are needed.

Shannon VanRaes is a Winnipeg-based journalist and photojournalist who spends her days contributing to the Manitoba Co-operator and nights covering urban affairs.

ROSEMARY WESTWOOD

metroview

When people think about trans, they think about genitals

Laverne Cox is one sexy woman.

The Orange is the New Black star lounged nude on what looks like luxurious linen for a photo shoot in the May issue of Allure magazine, a statement as much about trans as it is about sex.

Then there's Aydian Dowling, a transgender male model who's the front-runner in a competition to grace the cover of Men's Health magazine in November (also, may I say, quite attractive).

The trans community now has mainstream sex symbols — amen to that. This is a trans moment, a crescendo of news coverage where sex icon is a next step toward mainstream acceptance, twisted as that might be.

I want that acceptance for trans people, even if we have to wade through some dirty media coverage to get there.

Like that of Bruce Jenner. I never watched him in Keeping Up With the Kardashians, but I plan to watch him being interviewed by Diane Sawyer this weekend about the very loud rumours that he's transitioning. Jenner has confirmed nothing, but media are having a field day, photoshopping makeup onto his face, pestering his children about his gender, using trans jokes as headlines.

Canadian trans activist and writer Christin Milloy told me it's "disgusting." But don't blame Jenner. You can't ask a Kardashian (even one by marriage) to avoid making a public spectacle. And Jenner has every right to come out the way he wants.

The blame lies with us, for putting our own fascination with trans people over respect for them.

Milloy described it both as a curiosity with gender roles themselves, which none of us fit perfectly, and also "a misguided sexual fascination. When people think about trans, they instantly think about genitals."

But not all press coverage stoops to those lows. Stories about a teen's suicide in Ohio and how a transgender girl is getting support from her parents in Ottawa give a face to trans issues that can change minds.

"It's easy to hate an abstraction, it's much harder to hate real people," as Matthew Breen, editor in chief of the well-respected LGBT magazine The Advocate, noted.

For Cox, posing nude was a way to empower others. "Trans women certainly are not told we're beautiful," she told Allure. "Seeing a black transgender woman embracing and loving everything about herself might be inspiring to some other folks."

It's a laudable goal. I don't often tell people to go look up nude photos. But this is one of those times.

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Shad stands on guard for q

RADIO

Musician ready to push himself to save CBC's flagship show

Rosemary Westwood
Metro | Toronto

It's Day 1, the beginning of the answer to the question: Can Shad save the show formerly known as Q?

Months of rotating hosts have sustained it, but the CBC's flagship arts program — rebranded as q — is in desperate need of someone with the charisma that Jian Ghomeshi once brought. Someone to draw out the array of characters that rotate through that studio. Someone, in Shad's words, who can connect.

"This show is less about hard 'J' journalism, more about a heart-to-heart kind of conversation," he told Metro during an interview in the days after he was announced as q's new host.

He's had little more than a month to prepare and to shake off the nerves that seemed to take hold of him that day as he stood in the cavernous CBC headquarters, the iconic CBC emblems and faces of CBC stars all around him. Except, of course, Ghomeshi's.

"One thing he did is he brought his curiosities to the interview on a personal level," Shad said when asked if there was something he could learn from Ghomeshi's style as an interviewer.

"You could tell he was invested in the answer, like you might have the answer for me, for me personally, you know?"

In a T-shirt and hoodie, and a lopsided toque, Shad put on few airs. He had a direct gaze and a natural ease, little interested in being a celebrity, it seemed, and little interest, he said, in the celebrity of others.

"Celebrity has power, but I think the show is about more profound stories.

"I'm not interested in a show about celebrity, and I don't think the team is interested in a show about celebrity," he said.

The CBC might disagree.

Landing big-name guests has been a crucial part of its success on both side of the border.

Shad also said he doesn't think q needs to pander to its large and important American audience.

"I think you can have a Canadian show that still connects with American audiences," he said.

Shad says his success as q's host will be a measure of his own abilities and risk taking. LIZ BEDDALL/METRO

> **This show is less about hard 'J' journalism, more about a heart-to-heart kind of conversation.**
> Shad on the mandate of q

For the CBC, much rides on whether Shad will live up to hype as q's new champion. He himself said he hardly knows what to be afraid of, walking into the show with little experience as a broadcaster or host. There will be ratings to measure his success and the feedback of q staff.

For Shad, success will be a measure of his own abilities: "Am I pushing myself to ask the questions that Canadians need answers to? Am I pushing my talent and my courage? Am I taking risks? Am I scared half the time?"

But it will be Canadians who ultimately judge him, and find Shad q's saviour, or not, starting today.

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The magic money talk

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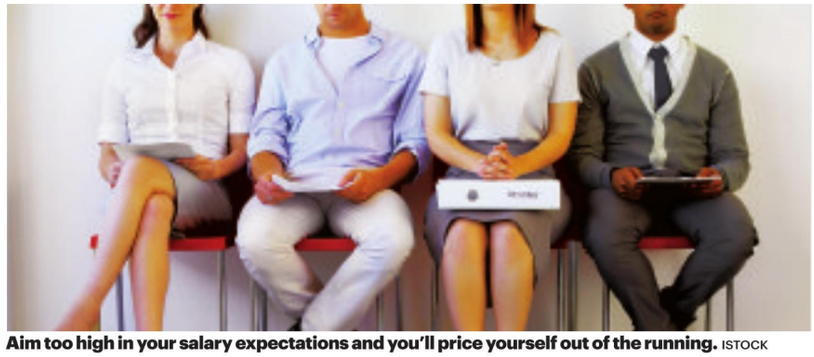

Aim too high in your salary expectations and you'll price yourself out of the running. ISTOCK

OFFICE RELATIONS

Eleni Deacon

You're in the home stretch of your second interview for a golden-opportunity job. You've aced every answer and made your potential boss laugh. There's one issue, however, that must still be addressed: your salary expectations. For many interviewees, this is a question to dread. But talking pay should not cause pain.

Which is not to say that articulating salary expectations is simple. Aim too high, and you price yourself out of the running. Stoop too low, and you'll not only look inexperienced — you'll also corner yourself into a ho-hum income. You want to find your salary sweet spot: a figure that both you and your prospective employer find fair. But without knowing what's on offer, how can you name your range?

First, do your research. There are several websites that calculate loose — if not entirely reliable — guidelines for the pay scales in different fields. You should also talk numbers with people who work in similar domains. Remember that job interviews are about determining your knowledge and fit. Naming a market-range salary makes you a more feasible candidate — and it also shows your industry savvy.

On the day of your interview, expect to be asked about your expectations. Should discussing money make you antsy, practice beforehand. Determine if there is any outstanding information you need — like whether your compensation package will include benefits or perks — and ask all relevant questions before citing your rate. Make sure you're comfortable with the bottom end of your scale.

Despite careful prep, many job hunters will be offered salaries that fall well below their expectations. When faced with weak wages, assess the position's non-monetary value. Are there growth opportunities within the company? Will you be learning significant new skills or making valuable connections? A solid salary is just one element to fulfilling work.

THE NUMBERS

Keep it narrow

While it's smart to propose a range in your salary expectations, don't make it too wide. $45 to $50K suggests flexibility; $30K to $60K suggests you're flinging digits with no concept of your own worth.

WORKSPACE

De-cluttering helps productivity flow

Whether you work from home or in a cubicle, one thing is almost always certain — a messy desk has a way of interrupting our workflow. Want proof? A 2011 study out of the Princeton Neuroscience Institute found that cluttered, untidy environments impair our ability to stay on task.

Office organizing expert Kacy Paide says the mess will continue distracting you until you address it.

"There's this nagging voice in the back of most people's heads that makes them feel guilty if they're not organizing," she says.

Before you start trashing stuff, you first need to do an audit of what's actually in your workspace. In other words, pinpoint where the biggest concentration of junk is.

"I always teach people about the power of grouping like with like," says Paide. "It's an easy, open-ended method that can be as simple as separating paper from office supplies."

Once you start creating piles, you'll naturally see what's making up the bulk of your clutter.

From there, let the piles lead your to-do lists. For example, you'll likely have a pile of paper that requires some sort of action (like a phone call or a bit of research).

After you've identified the clutter and cleared it away, you'll be left with the things that can either be stored or displayed on your desk for easy access. MARIANNE HAYES/METRO IN NEW YORK

Identify clutter and clear it away. ISTOCK

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Customers try on an Apple Watch in Milan, Italy on Friday. The new technology means more bite-size news being directed at readers, say media analysts. JACOPO RAULE/GETTY IMAGES

A glance towards the future of journalism

APPLE WATCH

The New York Times, Yahoo ready bite-size news platforms

With the Apple Watch expected to sell in the millions, news organizations are refocusing their efforts to become part of that tiny screen.

In the news business, this is now called "glance journalism."

The Apple Watch, expected to catapult to the leading item in wearable technology, opens up new possibilities to a news industry seeking to connect with audiences in the digital era.

The New York Times says its app for the Apple Watch will be "a new form of storytelling" and that "editors on three continents" will update notifications. Readers will be able to "hand off" an article to view on an iPhone or iPad.

Yahoo will have four apps for the Apple device, including a news digest updated hourly with "microsummaries" of major stories, as well as apps for fantasy sports, weather and one specifically for Hong Kong news.

CNN and National Public Radio also have apps for the Apple Watch, and others are expected to follow. The new technology means more bite-size news being directed at consumers, say media analysts.

"We are about to enter the era of at-a-glance journalism'," says Mario Garcia, a consultant with Garcia Media and faculty member at the Poynter Institute for Media Studies, in a blog post.

Garcia, who is also participating in a research project on news for smartphones with Aarhus University of Denmark, said he is "fascinated" with the possibilities.

"It is more difficult to pull an iPhone out of one's pocket or a purse in a crowded New York City subway than it would be to glance at one's watch," he said.

"So, I predict that we will be doing a lot of glancing, as in reading seductive headlines and deciding if we read or not."

The emergence of wearables offers a new platform for the news media — one that is fast, personal and always on, says Robert Hernandez, who teaches mobile journalism at the University of Southern California.

"The ability to access knowledge will be quicker with the watch." For newsrooms, it is "a new opportunity to be part of this person's body," Hernandez said.

And journalism will find a way to use the smartwatch, he said: "When Twitter came out, people were saying 'You can't do journalism in 140 characters,' but it has now become an essential tool." AFP

APPS REVIEWS PICKS FOR THE WEEK

MIND THE APP

Kris Abel
@RealKrisAbel

The latest gore-filled edition of a gaming classic and J. K. Rowling gets illustrated — check out our picks for this week's best downloads.

VIDEO GAME

Mortal Kombat X

- PS4/Xbox One/PC
- Rating: Mature 17+

With fatalities from face eating and disembowelment, this 10th entry is the goriest of the franchise. Yet its fighting is accessible, its characters diverse, and its dense story is really good-humoured.

EBOOK

Very Good Lives

- By J. K. Rowling
- Kindle/iBooks/Kobo

Rowling's Harvard commencement address on failure and imagination was written to be spoken aloud and so this text uses poetic illustrations to visualize the expressive nature of her voice.

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FINANCE

Forget credit: An emergency fund means cash in the bank

MONEY MATTERS
Gail Vaz-Oxlade
gailvazoxlade.com

How long could you go without a paycheque? If you were to get sick, or if someone you loved needed to be cared for, how long would you last on what you've got sitting in the bank? If you were downsized, right-sized or wrongly dismissed, how long till the money runs out? If you tripped and fell, broke your wrist, your leg or your back and couldn't work, how long would you last?

As your first line of defence against the unexpected things life will throw at you, an emergency fund is indispensable. Without an emergency fund, you'd have to turn to credit to fill the holes. And, no, a line of credit is not an acceptable emergency fund. It's debt waiting to happen. A true emergency fund is cash in the bank.

If you're thinking, "Unemployment will tide me over," have you ever looked into what unemployment insurance pays? Talk about having to adjust your expectations! And, besides, getting a cheque isn't a sure thing. If you haven't worked enough hours to qualify, you're SOL. And if you hate your job — or the boss ends up chasing you around the desk — and you quit, you're SOL. Whatever reason you may have for "voluntarily" leaving your job, it's unlikely that you'll see a penny. And don't think getting yourself fired is the cure … you likely won't see a penny either, since being turfed for bad behaviour will disqualify you, too. Never mind the fact that no one else will want to hire you. And then there's the EI wait period. Whatcha gonna eat for those many weeks you have to wait for your first cheque?

If you're thinking, "It won't happen to me," wake up! If you honestly believe unexpected bills and misery simply can't come your way, you're delusional. All kinds of things go wrong in life: Lovies get sick, companies go belly up, people die. Hoping for a great life is one thing. Banking on nothing ever going wrong is just plain dumb.

So how much cash in the bank are we talking about? Work towards accumulating six months' worth of essential expenses. When I talk about essential expenses, I'm talking about the most basic costs being covered: rent/mortgage payment, property taxes, utilities, car payment, insurance of all kinds, food, minimum payments on your debt repayment. You can cancel the cable. You can find free fun. And that cellphone? Call and say it's lost and suspend your service!

People often can't wrap their heads around the idea of getting a pile of money together for an emergency. The concept of having enough to cover six months' worth of expenses is just too overwhelming. You've got to break it down into manageable pieces so you don't stop before you even get started.

Take stock of your expenses

List each category of expense you would have to keep covered: rent or mortgage payments, food, medical costs, insurance, child care, car payments, gas. These are your essential expenses: the stuff you must pay to keep the wolves from the door.

Go back over your list and cut out anything you've kept that's not essential to keeping body and soul together. If you've just gone from two incomes to one, you can give up your cable, telephone, entertainment and everything else you wouldn't die without, at least in the short term. Your emergency fund is designed to cover the essentials of life.

Now write in the average monthly amount for each of your essential emergency expenses. Then put six check boxes beside the amount.

Pick the first expense you want to have covered. Let's go with shelter for our example, and say you need $1,800 to cover your rent or mortgage payment.

How much can you save every month? Open up a high-interest savings account and have the amount you've decided on deducted from your regular account to this account every month. When you've got your first $1,800 in your emergency fund savings account, you're going to put a check mark in one of your boxes. There. You've done it. One month's worth of shelter money at the ready, just in case.

A final warning: Some people, having accumulated a healthy emergency fund, have a problem with the concept of the money just sitting there. Once they've built up a couple of thousand dollars, they start thinking of that money as spendable. The vacation becomes a "sanity emergency."

The replacement windows become a "home emergency." They run up their credit cards and that becomes a "debt emergency." They find a way to rationalize spending the money because the idea of having that money sitting there is so foreign to them.

Don't fall into this trap. Remember, your emergency fund is all that stands between you and destitution!

How much?

6 mos.

An emergency fund can help you weather any financial storm. Work toward accumulating six months' worth of essential expenses: rent/mortgage payment, property taxes, utilities, insurance, food, and so on.

"Hoping for a great life is one thing. Banking on nothing ever going wrong is just plain dumb.

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Eugenie Bouchard lost both of her singles matches in Canada's loss to Romania in Fed Cup World Group action

Jets return with spirits sky-high

NHL PLAYOFFS

Ducks hold 2-0 advantage as series shifts to MTS Centre

Forward Michael Frolik didn't sleep well after the Winnipeg Jets gave up a goal in the final seconds in Game 2 of their first-round playoff series against the Anaheim Ducks.

But a new day brought new perspective. Going back home to what should be a raucous MTS Centre for Game 3 Monday night is one of many things infusing the Jets with confidence despite facing a 2-0 series deficit.

"We have a great opportunity to head home and put on a show for our fans in Game 3," winger Drew Stafford said Sunday morning. "Bottom line, there's nothing we can do about these last two games. You have to take what you can from it. But we're feeling just fine right now."

Results aside, the Jets have plenty to feel fine about. Through two games, they've gone stride for stride and hit for hit with the top team in the Western Conference, led for more than 30 minutes and gotten strong goaltending from Ondrej Pavelec.

"I don't think we played our best, and we were still pretty close," Frolik said. "We still can be a little bit better. I think that's what gives us that belief and confidence that we can be better, that we can beat that team."

They haven't beaten that team, though, blowing two third-period leads. Penalties are a problem, most recently captain Andrew Ladd's high-sticking infraction that led to Anaheim's tying goal in Game 2.

Winnipeg coach Paul Maurice would like his team to be more disciplined and get the power play going to generate more offence and test Ducks goaltender Frederik Andersen. Players said outside their hotel Sunday morning before flying back to Winnipeg that the penalty kill needs some improvement, too, but going to the box fewer times would also help.

1996

The last time an NHL playoff game was played in Winnipeg

Maurice didn't mind the mood being a little sour the morning after a rough loss and hopes his team can harness that.

"There's a long history of down 2-0 and feeling pretty down about yourself and coming back and winning the series," Maurice said. "I'm going to let that hang around for a little while because they're tight games and it's just a matter of inches at times and that's the frustrating part.

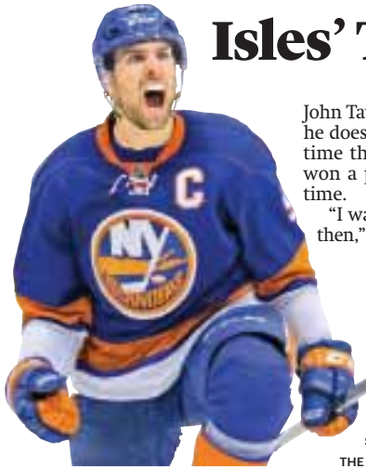
"You talk about the things that we need to do better, you get your energy back up and you get back home and get excited by the game."

More than most teams going home down 2-0, the Jets have plenty to be excited about because they'll be playing the first NHL playoff game in Winnipeg since 1996.

"We know we've got a lot of fans that have been waiting a long time to watch playoff hockey, and we're looking forward to getting back in that building and turning this thing around," Stafford said. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Patrick Maroon of the Ducks and the Jets' Toby Enstrom chase a puck in front of Jets goalie Ondrej Pavelelc during Game 2 of their first-round playoff series on Saturday in Anaheim. STEPHEN DUNN/GETTY IMAGES

> **We know how loud their building is on a normal night. I've got to believe that it's going to be a little bit more ramped up come Monday night.**
> Ducks coach Bruce Boudreau



Isles' Tavares makes quick work of Capitals in overtime

John Tavares can be excused if he doesn't recall the previous time the New York Islanders won a playoff game in overtime.

"I was only three years old then," the Islanders' captain said, when informed it's been 22 years since that happened.

John Tavares scored in overtime on Sunday to give the Islanders a 2-1 series lead against the Capitals. SETH WENIG/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

He'll certainly remember this one.

After winning the overtime-opening faceoff, Tavares scored 15 seconds into the extra period to seal a 2-1 win over the Washington Capitals in Game 3 of their first-round playoff series on Sunday.

With the crowd in Uniondale, N.Y., chanting "MVP! MVP" Tavares provided the Islanders a 2-1 series lead.

And he became the first Islanders player to score a playoff overtime goal since David Volek did in Game 7 of a second-round 4-3 win over Pittsburgh on May 14, 1993.

New York had lost its previous six overtime playoff games.

> **You have to deal with each and every shift, the adversity you face. You have to move on.**
> John Tavares on the Islanders' blown lead in a 4-2 loss in Game 2

Tavares' tally was the second-fastest playoff overtime goal in Islanders history. J.P. Parise scored in 11 seconds on April 11, 1975, in the franchise's first post-season game decided in OT.

Game 4 is at Long Island on Tuesday.

Blackhawks 4, Predators 2

Jonathan Toews had a goal and an assist, and the Chicago Blackhawks used a three-goal second period to beat the Nashville Predators for a 2-1 lead in their first-round playoff series.

Marian Hossa had two assists and Scott Darling made 35 saves to help Chicago win for the 20th time in its past 24 post-season home games. Brandon Saad, Brent Seabrook and Andrew Desjardins also scored in an impressive response by the Blackhawks after Friday night's 6-2 loss in Nashville.

Darling made his first post-season start after Corey Crawford was ineffective in the first two games of the series.

Mike Ribeiro and Mattias Ekholm scored for Nashville, and Pekka Rinne had 26 saves.

Game 4 takes place Tuesday in Chicago. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Cavs win in Irving's post-season debut

NBA

Young Celtics squad loses to LeBron James's experience

Kyrie Irving scored 30 points in his playoff debut, LeBron James added 20 in his first post-season game with Cleveland in five years and the Cavaliers opened a run toward an NBA title with a 113-100 victory over the Boston Celtics on Sunday.

Irving made five three-pointers and Kevin Love, another post-season rookie, added 19 points and 12 rebounds.

Isaiah Thomas scored 22 points to lead the seventh-seeded Celtics. They will try to even the best-of-seven series in Game 2 on Tuesday night.

James came in with more playoff experience — 158 games — than Boston's entire roster, an inequality that seemed to favour the Cavaliers. However, the young Celtics weren't overwhelmed on the bigger stage or intimidated by Cleveland's towel-waving fans sporting T-shirts that said, "All In," the team's post-season slogan.

Irving's three-pointer at the horn gave the Cavs a 62-54 lead at the half. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NETS VS. HAWKS

Brooklyn loses in Atlanta thriller

Kyle Korver scored 21 points, including five three-pointers, and the top-seeded Atlanta Hawks held off the Brooklyn Nets 99-92 in Game 1 of the Eastern Conference playoff series Sunday night.

Game 2 is Wednesday night in Atlanta.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Cavaliers' LeBron James throws down a dunk for two points on Sunday. JASON MILLER/GETTY IMAGES

MLB

Toronto rookie has rough game

Dalton Pompey shouldered the blame Sunday for the Toronto Blue Jays' 5-2 loss to the Atlanta Braves.

The rookie centre-fielder from Mississauga, Ont., figured in four of Atlanta's runs. He misplayed Jonny Gomes' first-inning fly ball with the bases loaded that resulted in a three-run double. Then in the third, Pompey's throwing error brought Freddie Freeman home for the Braves' fourth run.

"We lose that game because I don't make that play, and I take full responsibility for that," said Pompey, who began his availability by apologizing to Toronto coaches, players and fans. "I kind of stopped for a second and broke back and the ball started to slice back to my reverse side and I couldn't make the adjustment in time.... I should've been playing deeper in that situation but I wasn't.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

SUNDAY IN TORONTO

5	2
ATLANTA	TORONTO

IN BRIEF

Villa wins in squeaker

Aston Villa came from behind to beat Liverpool 2-1 in the semifinals of the FA Cup on Sunday to clinch a title match next month against Arsenal.

After a Liverpool goal by Philippe Coutinho, Villa striker Christian Benteke equalized, followed by a goal by Delph. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Man City wins after own goal

A bizarre own goal from West Ham's James Collins helped Manchester City to victory, but its 2-0 win on Sunday was overshadowed by a head injury to David Silva.

The 29-year-old Silva was stretchered off and taken to the hospital after a collision with Cheikhou Kouyate.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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CarProof VEHICLE HISTORY REPORTS

RECIPE Baked Mac 'n Cheese

EAT LIGHT AT HOME

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Ready in
Prep time: 15 minutes
Cook time: 20-25 minutes

Directions

1. Preheat the oven to 425°F. 2. Whisk together the flour, stock and milk in a saucepan until smooth. Place over medium heat and cook, whisking constantly, for about 3–5 minutes or until the mixture is hot and thickened. Stir in the 3/4 cup cheddar and Parmesan cheeses and the mustard. Cook until the cheese melts, about 1 minute. Remove from the heat.

2. Meanwhile, bring a large pot of water to a boil. Add the macaroni and cook for about 8–10 minutes, until tender but still firm. Drain well and place in large oven proof skillet. Add the cheese sauce and chicken and toss to combine.

3. To make the topping, combine the breadcrumbs, Parmesan and oil in a small bowl. Sprinkle evenly over the macaroni and top with ¼ cup cheddar cheese.

4. Bake in the center of the preheated oven for 10–15 minutes or until the filling is hot and the top is golden. Garnish with the parsley and serve right out of pan.

Ingredients
- 2 Tbsp all-purpose flour
- 3/4 cup chicken (or vegetable) stock
- 3/4 cup canned evaporated milk (2%)
- 3/4 cup shredded aged light cheddar cheese
- 3 Tbsp grated Parmesan cheese
- 1/2 tsp Dijon mustard
- 1 3/4 cups elbow macaroni
- 3/4 cup diced cooked chicken topping
- 3 Tbsp seasoned dry breadcrumbs
- 1 Tbsp grated Parmesan cheese
- 2 tsp olive oil
- 1/4 cup shredded aged light cheddar cheese
- 3 Tbsp chopped parsley

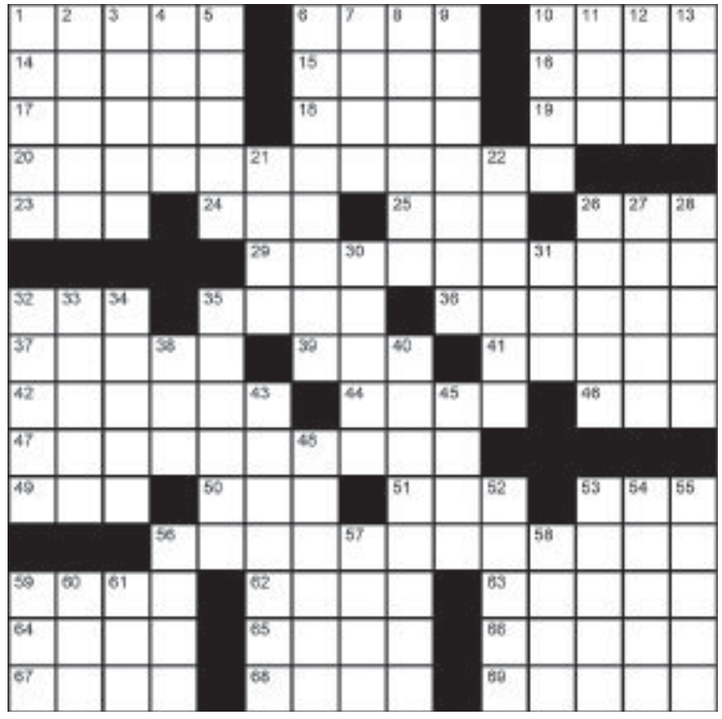
Nutrition per serving
- Calories 321 • Protein 25 g
- Carbohydrates 37 g
- Fibre 1.6 g • Total fat 9 g
- Saturated fat 3.9 g
- Cholesterol 41 mg
- Sodium 391 mg

PHOTO: ROSE REISMAN

CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN

ANSWERS ONLINE metronews.ca



ACROSS
1. Casually converses
6. Mil. ranks
10. Optimism
14. Shack
15. Jai's usual follower
16. Sacred bird of ancient Egypt
17. Marketplace of ancient Greece
18. Variety
19. Does a 'Thou shalt not'
20. Hot trend in horticulture: 2 wds.
23. Abolish
24. :(
25. "__ _ Slave 4 U" by Britney Spears
26. A fox is this
29. Thoroughfare (spelled out here) in Langley, BC that runs alongside the U.S. border: 2 wds.
32. Energy
35. Casino game
36. Antique finish
37. Blow _ __ (See red)
39. "__ Wiedersehen!"
41. Green stones
42. Lap the other track racers again
44. Tepid
46. East: French
47. Name of Michael Snow's soaring Canada Geese artwork in the Toronto Eaton Centre: 2 wds.
49. MLB's Cardinals, on scoreboards
50. German 'I'
51. _-Tac-Toe
53. Bread roll variety
56. Theme of the Royal Tyrrell Museum in Drumheller, AB
59. Be open-wide
62. "Deal __ __ Deal"
63. Car polishing person
64. Mr. Clapton
65. _ the crack of dawn: 2 wds.
66. www mag
67. "Star __"
68. 'Great' dog breed
69. Leases

DOWN
1. Fray
2. Wrestling Hulk
3. Cold shoulder it
4. The Yukon, e.g.
5. Finishes off, Knight-style
6. Newfoundland town; or, Jan & Dean's "The Little Old Lady from __"
7. Madrid 'flower'
8. Fitness routine component
9. Guide for visitors to a web page
10. Disapproving noise
11. Fabric belt
12. ATM-user's code
13. 'Host' suffix
21. Fixed stare
22. "__ Rug" by Victoria-born singer Ian Tyson
26. Catty
27. Montreal 'moons'
28. Leavening agent
30. Awaken
31. In-flight info, for short
32. Paper sleeves encircling hot takeout cups of coffee
33. "Because _ __ like it!" (That's why!)
34. Student
35. Ottawa-born singer Ms. Chante
38. U.S. performers' org.
40. Citation below the text
43. "Charlie __. __" (2010) starring Zac Efron
45. BBQ rod
48. Mount Everest professional
52. Retreat in fear
53. Confine: 2 wds.
54. Insurance professional
55. Ceremonial funeral stacks
56. Actor Gregory
57. __ __ even keel
58. Chill out
59. Acquire
60. Get there, briefly
61. Circular dessert

IT'S ALL IN THE STARS by Sally Brompton

Aries March 21 - April 20
You may not have been serious about a social or political issue in the past but you are certainly serious about it now. You won't rest until you've had your say and made your mark.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
It's not often you splash out on gifts for other people but with the Sun moving into your sign today you are in an optimistic, and therefore generous, mood.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
The next few days could be special for affairs of the heart. But you also have some thinking to do, so set aside an hour or two where you can be alone with your ideas.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
Don't worry too much about trying to impress other people. With the Sun firmly on your side again you will get all the approval you could wish for over the next few days.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
Someone who is usually the life and soul of the party is a bit depressed at the moment and you must make it your business to find out what is wrong. Calm their fears and cheer them up.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
One way or another you will get what you want over the next 24 hours. But you will get it quicker and easier if you avoid strong-arm tactics and use charm and persuasion.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
The Sun leaves the relationship area of your chart today but that is not an excuse to pay less attention to the one you love. Show a little passion over the next 24 hours.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Your instincts are telling you that a calculated risk of some kind could pay off in a big way but do you have the courage to go through with it? Only you can make that decision but make it soon or the opportunity will be gone.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
You will be the center of attention for all the right reasons over the next 24 hours. Your wit and your charm will attract others.

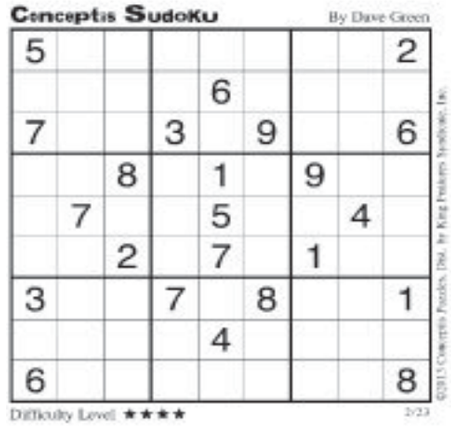
Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Don't push yourself too hard as the new week begins. The Sun's move into the most dynamic area of your chart will fill you with energy and enthusiasm but you need to plan a bit too.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Something will grab your attention today and you will be focused on it to the exclusion of everything else. Remember, though, that other people exist as well.

Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
The time has come to forgive and forget. The Sun moves on today and so must you – there is simply no point hanging on to disputes that belong in the past.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9



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